



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Douglas M. Duncan
County Executive

James A. Caldwell
Director

MEMORANDUM

October 7, 2005

TO: Thomas E. Perez, President
Montgomery County Council

FROM: James A. Caldwell, Director
Department of Environmental Protection

Robert C. Hubbard, Director
Department of Permitting Services

SUBJECT: Transmittal of the Annual Report on the Special Protection Area (SPA) Program

As specified under Chapter 19, Article V, Section 19-67(d), we are pleased to submit the 8th annual report on the Special Protection Area (SPA) program.

This report covers results of stream monitoring and the sampling of sediment controls and stormwater best management practices (BMP) in 2004. The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) initiated pre-construction stream monitoring in SPA's in 1995. Project developers began addressing their BMP monitoring requirements for a few projects in 1998, before most development activity had begun within the three originally designated SPA's. Based upon monitoring and field observations, and related Department of Permitting Services (DPS) and DEP experiences in water quality plan review and in stormwater facility siting and maintenance, the report highlights those aspects of the SPA program that seem to be working well and those that do not. It also indicates changes currently being pursued or that are recommended to address needed SPA program improvements.

Please call Mr. Keith Van Ness (240-777-7726) of DEP if you have any questions concerning the SPA Report. Questions concerning the status of specific SPA developments should be referred to Mr. Leo Galanko (240-777-6242) of DPS.

cc: Douglas M. Duncan, Montgomery County Executive
Derick Berlage, Chairman, Montgomery County Planning Board
Cameron Wiegand, Department of Environmental Protection
Stan Wong, Department of Permitting Services

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Office of the Director